

BOARD OF SELECTPERSON
Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2026

CALL TO ORDER:

Brady called the meeting to order at 7:00PM with the Flag Salute.

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Howard Burnham, Wade Andrews, Brady Connors, Jerry Gilpatrick

MEMBERS IN AUDIENCE:

Alesha Buzzell, Cheryl Edgerly, Heath Edgerly, Gail Libby, Deedee Tibbets, Walter Ricker, Ricky Richardson, Wendy Thorne, Joanne Andrews, Sean Mackie, Scott Logan, Lori Harmon, Neal Meltzer, Bill Jones, Stephen McLean, Judy Lepage, John Cleveland, Craig Allen, Anthony Carroll

MINUTES:

Approve minutes- March 2nd - Howard **motioned** to approve, Wade **seconded**, all in favor.

WARRANT:

Motion to accept the March 16th warrants- Howard **motioned** to accept, Wade **seconded**, all in favor.

Motion to accept the March 9th warrants - Wade **motioned** to accept, Howard **seconded**, all in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Wade read the announcements.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Neal Meltzer and John Cleveland CDAC-

The Deepvale Project, which encompasses improvements to Emery Corner Road and 500 feet of Watson Hill Road, is moving forward following a competitive two-year grant process. Originally applied for in Q1 of 2024, the town was placed on a waitlist before being selected as one of only two funded candidates out of a pool of four. To secure the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Limerick successfully demonstrated that the project area benefits a population consisting of at least 51% low-to-moderate income households. Following the completion of Phase 2 documentation and the execution of the grant contract by the previous board, the town moved into the engineering and bidding phase. Dirigo was awarded the engineering contract, and after issuing a Request for Bids in January, seven contractors responded with competitive bids. Dearborn Construction was identified as the lowest bidder at \$908,696.

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The infrastructure upgrades are critical due to recent upgrades in the Washington St and Hollandville areas, which are fed by the Emery Corner Road pumping station. Currently, water is being forced through 100-year-old, undersized, and corroded lines, which negatively impacts water quality.

The Deepvale Project will address this by installing 1,400 feet of new 12-inch water main, benefiting all customers within the Limerick Water District. Additionally, the project will replace 400 feet of century-old clay tile sewer line running along Sokokis Lake and extend the water line 500 feet up Watson Hill Road to provide necessary fire protection. While an original plan to include Central Avenue was considered, the \$1.6 million cost exceeded available funding. During board discussion, Tony Carroll clarified that the existing sewer line ends near the hardware store, and Neal addressed pressure concerns by noting that a mobile monitoring system allows for real-time adjustments. Furthermore, it was confirmed that residents on Watson Hill Road with existing wells will not be charged a "ready to serve" fee.

Financially, the project is well-positioned with a total of \$1,343,900 in available funds, including \$344,000 from a town reserve account (\$125,000 of which is ARPA funding). John explained that the CDBG funding process differs from previous EPA projects; invoices are submitted monthly for a drawdown, with funds typically arriving within a week, contractors are not paid until the town receives these state funds, and the first drawdown has already been processed. Total expenses include the construction bid, engineering fees, \$28,970 for new water meters, and a \$25,000 site inspection agreement between the town and the water district. A contingency fund of \$316,134 has also been set aside.

Howard **Motioned** to authorize Brady to sign the Notification of Bid Award for Dearborn Construction Wade **Seconded** 3 in favor and Brady abstained. The Board tabled the approval of the inspection contract until the water district waiting for "Not to Exceed" language to be added to the agreement. The project is slated to run from Summer through early Fall with final dates to be determined at a later time. A pre-construction meeting involving the contractor, engineering firm, and town officials is scheduled for Tuesday, March 24, 2026, at 11:00 AM at the Municipal Building, and is open to the public.

Stephanie Bishop – Not Present

Joanne Andrews, Transfer Station –

Summer Hours are now into effect, closing at 5PM instead of 4PM, Income is down 40% This year so far, Possible due to weather. Howard asked how many Tires can be disposed of at a time per person. Joanne Stated 15 Tires per week are allowed. No one can bring in all 15. The charge is \$3 per regular tire and \$5 if over 19 Inches

Deedee Tibbets, Town Clerk –

The Annual Town Meeting was held on Friday, March 13th, during which several technical issues occurred with the ballot boxes; one failed after 32 voters, and another required manual intervention, resulting in three separate ballots being hand-counted. Following the election, a recount has been requested by Walter Ricker for one of the two three-year Selectboard terms. Initial results showed

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Lori Harmon with 179 and Walter Ricker with 177. The recount is scheduled for Thursday, March 19th, at 10:00 AM, and is open to the public.

Deedee noted that while no ballots were thrown out, several were "spoiled" due to voter error and will be available for review during the recount. It was clarified that Walter Ricker may select the ballot counters; however, if he is unable to provide them, the town will supply them. Deedee also addressed a complaint received on her personal phone regarding instructions given by ballot clerks; she clarified that clerks were correctly instructing voters that they could vote for "up to two"

candidates, not that they were required to vote for two. Additionally, a notification was received regarding a potential protest of the election, though it was noted this is separate from the recount process. It was questioned if messages regarding town business on a personal device are subject to FOAA; Brady will consult with MMA legal for a definitive answer.

A total of 351 ballots were cast for most articles, though some items saw only 350 due to incomplete absentee ballot returns.

In the Selectboard race for the two three-year terms, Gerry Gilpatick received 232 votes and was an obvious winner. Lori Harmon received 179 votes, and Walter Ricker received 177. A recount has been set up as previously stated for Thursday for the position between Lori and Walter.

For the one two-year Selectboard term, Wade Andrews was elected with 189 votes over Clifton Finch's 132.

Wendy Thorne (Budget Committee write-in)

Arron Carroll (Planning Board, 248)
Peter Mayhar (Planning Board, 231),
Jason Wright (Planning Board write-in).

Anastasia Ferguson was elected RSU 57 Director with 270 votes.

The Library Trustee terms were filled by Jennifer Morin (193), and Jessica Winn (200),

Anthony Carroll was elected Sewage District Trustee with 250 votes.

The Voters passed Articles 3–12, 14–20, 22–25, 27–28, and 30–51

Articles 13, 21, 26, and 29 failed to pass.

It was noted that the Selectboard has to have a Special Town meeting for the warrant articles that failed as funding will not be in place to run the departments on 4/1/2026 if not passed.

Brady **Motioned** To have the special town meeting at the Fire Department on 30th at 6:00PM with selectboard meeting to follow, Jerry **Seconded** All in favor

To prepare for the upcoming Special Town Meeting on March 30, 2026, a joint meeting between the Selectboard and the Budget Committee has been scheduled for Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 6:00 PM to review the necessary warrant articles. During the discussion about the meeting, the

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board decided to keep the warrant articles the same as previously drafted, except for breaking out the Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer positions into separate items; all specific financial figures associated with these articles will be reserved for discussion at the meeting itself.

Deedee mentioned that a good way to save some legal fees would be to reach out to MMA legal services before reaching out to the town's attorney.

Judy Lepage, Tax Collector – Julie received a Freedom of Access Act (FOAA) request seeking copies of checks and total proceeds from the sale of tax-acquired properties, which the town began selling in November 2023. Judy reported that while Laura was still in office in March 2024, a total of \$186,552.96 from these sales was recorded through cash receiving; however, these funds were deposited into the General Ledger rather than the Capital Project Reserve account, which at that time held a balance of \$469,496.26. While a standing housekeeping article dictates that proceeds from tax-acquired property sales should be directed to the Capital Project Reserve, Judy questioned if this process has been impacted by new state legislation. Under the current law, any profit from such sales must be returned to the previous property owners after the town's administrative and sale-related fees are deducted. Judy concluded by outlining the necessary next steps to reconcile these accounts and determine the final balances in accordance with these legal requirements. It was mentioned that she has a copy of these reports and they are available if anyone would like to see them.

Wendy spoke regarding the subject of audit and accounting and that she would like to sit down with Julie to go over discrepancies in figures she found. She mentioned that there were some accounts in the audit that were not present on the town's general ledger.

Gail spoke stating that the Hollandville project had a bridge loan and interest for this loan was calculated into the budget for the project.

Cheryl mentioned that there may be "too many cooks in the kitchen" and that previous grants were not received on time.

Craig spoke about budgetary matters related to the Fire department and that the fire chief and him spoke about costs for the building. Mentioned the idea of factoring in the mortgage to the fire department's budget. Brady mentioned that Article 43 in the town's annual meeting included the cost of the mortgage listed as "debt services". It was mentioned that this was not included in his budget presentation, and he should state the other additional costs for the building. He stated that all town departments' budgets should include a building charge for upkeep of the building and "pay for their share".

Hearing of Citizens:

Sean Mackie – Had questions on the status of 3 Division Road, Other abutter has questions on what is happening with the building. Sean reported that he has contacted an attorney to explore their legal

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options, noting that six months have passed without any visible progress on the property. Sean asked where the board stands on demoing the building, Brady noted that Stan provided an email update earlier today indicating the property owner has declined all current offers. Brady has since inquired about the formal legal steps required to move forward with a town-led demolition of the building, though a response regarding the specific timeline and procedure has not yet been received. It was questioned as to why Stan was not present at this meeting as he was on the agenda last week, however the board didn't meet. Stan was out sick today. Howard mentioned that if we tear it down

We should have ownership of the home prior. Sean and other abutters are getting upset with the process and want a resolution. It was questioned who actually has ownership. Howard is going to talk with Stan in the morning and call the attorney and update Sean

Walter Ricker- Asking for all people to speak at the podium and not from the crowd so the people at home can hear.

OLD BUSINESS:

Review of Legal Accounts- There was one bill last week for \$1,378, mostly CEO/General Government.

Municipal Parking Lot Paving Update- Howard met with the engineer last week. We are at the point now where we can't move any further until we have a boundary survey done. We must have survey done prior to site engineering according to the agreement we have signed. We need approx. \$26,000 to get to the point where we are ready to go out to bid. Howard mentioned that for the rear side of the parking lot it's most likely a minimum amount of \$300,000.

Deepvale Update- John and Neal went over this in department reports, Meeting set for Tuesday March 24th to sign contracts and meet with contractors.

Discuss System Administrator - We are still waiting for the proposal from Modem Waves

New Auditing Firm- Auditor has answered Bradys questions, Brady looked for motion from board to sign audit letter, If any further changes are needed to be made it would have to be done in house. Howard **motioned** to sign the audit letter, Jerry **Seconded** All in Favor Brady **Abstained**. Once this is signed a new auditor would like to meet with us before a proposal

Recreation Director- Brady Received email, and application, need to schedule a interview/meeting.

June Ballot Articles- Money for Grange Hall ceiling, three contracts coming up for bid, Fire Dept. money that needs to be moved, Town accepting Emma's Way, paving for the Municipal Building, supplying money for the Comprehensive Committee, requesting Treasurer from elected to appointed. There was also a note from Town Clerk requesting this be added to change from

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elected to appointed to better help with ease of timelines for all full-time employees at Town Hall. The Board will continue to review these items. This warrant is Due 4/10/2024

YCSWCD Grant - Waiting to hear back on this.

Tax Acquired Properties – Mentioned that the Board can reach out to realtors as that is what we did last time. Brady talked through the process. Board will reflect.

New Business:

Set up public hearing for CIA Salvage on Recycler License. This was set up for 4/6 at 6PM. Howard **Motioned**, Wade **Seconded** All in favor, Alesha will Inform Stan.

Two proposals to discuss from OTIS Elevator – Need to review and have questions on the need for this. Howard reaching out to Pine State for proposal

Appointments and Resignations:

Dave Coleman, Budget Committee – Letter was read.

Discussion of Agenda Items- Public:

Heath Edgerly –

Heath addressed the Board regarding an email sent to two Selectboard members on February 25, 2026. Heath stated that Howard claimed not to have received the message for several weeks, Alesha Stated that he received it simultaneously with the rest of the Board. Heath read the email from Bridges Trucking, which detailed a complaint filed by Bridges Trucking regarding a town subcontractor threatening Heath, a Bridges Trucking employee. Heath noted that the alleged incident occurred while he was in Florida, He provided a timeline to verify his absence. He further explained that he had placed a padlock on the chain between the transfer station and salt shed to secure Bridges Trucking's equipment and fuel, as unauthorized individuals were wandering into the area. He also confirmed that he had installed cameras in this vicinity.

Heath reported that a subcontractor drove through the chain, damaging both the lock and a carabiner. He detailed further issues, including an incident on March 5 where a loader tire was found flat with a GRK screw nearby noting that the loader had been moved to an area not covered by cameras. Additionally, a tire company technician reportedly found that the valve stem had been dismantled. Heath expressed safety concerns, stating he felt threatened after seeing other contractors, including Mr. Pelligrino and Mr. Richardson, in the restricted area. He noted that despite a meeting with Howard and Constable Stan to mediate, he felt the Board had failed to act on the threats against him. Heath confirmed that the State Police were contacted; while they suggested a restraining order against the subcontractor, Heath expressed a desire to resolve the matter through the Board.

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Wade and Brady addressed the management of the site. Wade stated that the access cable had been in place for 30 years without incident and argued that the issues at hand began with Heath's involvement. Wade clarified that he had spoken with the owner of Bridges Trucking, Dennis, who allegedly agreed that the locks were to be removed. While Heath requested the matter be placed on the agenda for the following week to discuss repercussions for property damage, an audience member questioned the severity of the damage, noting it consisted only of a lock and carabiner. An audience member recommended the Board take no further action regarding the property damage,

with which Wade agreed. The discussion concluded with Brady confirming that Heath would be placed on the next meeting's agenda for further formal discussion as there were no answers at the current moment

Richard Richardson, Road Commissioner –

Provided clarification for Article 50 regarding a comment that was made. The budget committee had asked him to present a budget in which he did. At the budget meeting there was a discussion about money left over from FY2025, it was recommended to make an article question to use this money toward the Repair of Highway Budget. This money would be used for road improvements, finishing shoulder work on Stone Hill Road, hazardous trees throughout the town, as well as anything else needed on roads in town. He wanted to thank the dedicated budget committee for all their hard work. He also wanted to thank Alesha for everything.

Joanne Andrews, Transfer Station –

Wanted clarification on who to contact for the access of the lower gate at the transfer station, State that the chain has been monitored for 24 years by her. In some instances, the companies going to the transfer station are unable to access where they need to get to through the main gate hence the use of the rear gate. She is responsible for the old cap at the transfer station and making sure there is nothing within 100 feet of the Cap.

Cheryl Edgerly –

Stated that if one of the town employees didn't damage the chain and messed up the security of the area the rock wouldn't be there. Brady mentioned that there would need to be clarification on who authorized the rock to be placed there. Cheryl asked who authorized driving through the chain. Brady mentioned that the board is in the process of reviewing this complaint.

Walter Ricker –

Stated that everything presented tonight is hearsay and that there was no proof. No reason to waste town time and money and he should go to State Police, after an investigation is completed and if there is something found then the board can and should act on it.

Correspondence:

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Brought up silencing of cell phones, Need to discuss with full board as there has been 2 complaints regarding that.

ADJOURN MEETING: Howard **motioned** to adjourn; Wade **seconded** at 9:43PM; **all** were in favor.

These minutes were approved by the Limerick Board of Select Board on: Monday, March 23, 2026.

End of Broadcast

Respectfully submitted,

FOR DETAILS OF MEETING SEE RECORDING AT:

SRC-TV.ORG

"Limerick Select Board Meeting"

Under Limerick Municipal Bldg.